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## TWENTY-NINTH CONGRESS, First Session.

MONDAY, April 20, 1846.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. The journal of Saturday was read and approved Mr. DARGAN, on leave, presented a petition name not heard,) which he subsequently with

Mr. PHELPS, in pursuance of previous notice, saked, obtained leave, and introduced a bill to confirm certain entries of land made at the Springfield and office, in the State of Missouri; which was read twice, and committed.

The SPEAKER said the regular order of business was the call of the States for petitions.

Mr. BRODHEAD moved that the rules in relation to the order of business be suspended for one hour, that the committees might be called in their order for reports.

of the day.

The question was taken on the motion of Mr. BRODHEAD, and the House refused to suspend the rules to receive reports from committees.

VENTILLATION OF THE HALL. Mr. C. J. INGERSOLL asked leave-at the quest, he was understood to say, of the officers of the House—to introduce the following resolution:

Resolved. That, for the purpose of ventilating the hall on the House of Representatives, and giving an opportunity of down the sommer matting, as has been done in previous nog sessions, this idease will, when if adjourns on Thursay, the 30th day of April instant, adjourn to meet on the sliewing Monday.

Mr. JACOB THOMPSON objected. Mr. BOYD and Mr. T. B. KING moved a susof the rules, that the resolution might be re-

Mr. JACOB THOMPSON withdrew his objec-

Mr. G. W. JONES inquired whether the resolution fixed the adjournment at a time when the races over the National course would come off? If not, it should be so arranged that it might take place at that Mr. C.-J. INGERSOLL. I assure you I know

Mr. THOS B. KING moved to amend the sam y inserting after the word "seasion" the following and also to apply Espy's ventilator to the hall of

"ind also to apply Espy's ventilator to the hall of the House of Representatives, in the same manner as it has been applied to the Senate chamber."

Mr. KING desired to say a word in explanation of his amendment. He was understood to state that one of Mr. Espy's ventilators had been constructed for the use of the Senate, and it was proposed by the amendment to have a similar ventilator for the use of the House during the summer months. The cost of that in the Senate had been about \$250. The amendment proposed to appropriate the same mount, or so much thereof as might be necessary. Mr. B. MARTIN. We have too much wind

Mr. G. W. JONES moved to amend by striking out the day designated, and inserting "the day pre-eding the commencement of the races over the Na-ional course"

Mr. JACOB THOMPSON demanded the pre Some conversation followed, in which Messre LEAKE, T. B. KING, and G. W. JONES parti

in the subject of the

## INDIAN TRIBES IN OREGON.

Mr. JACOB THOMPSON moved that the House Mr. JACOB THOMPSON moved that the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, with a view, if that motion pre-wiled, to move that the committee proceed to the consideration of the bill to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes in the territory of Oregon, and to preserve peace and cultivate friendship with and among the said Indians.

The motion having been put and decided in the affirmative, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. G. S. Housewey, of Alabama, in the chair.)

Mr. JACOB THOMPSON moved that the com-plete take up the bill above indicated by him.

PAT AND MILEAGE OF MEMBERS.

Mr. SCHENCK gave notice that, if the motion of the gentleman from Missinspipi [Mr. Thompson should not prevail, he (Mr. S.) would move to take up the bill in relation to to the pay and mileage of

The question on the motion of Mr. Jacob Thomson having been taken and decided in the affirmative, the committee proceeded to the consideration of the bill to regulate trade and intercourse with the lodian tribes in the territory of Oregon, and to preserve peace and cultivate friendship with and among the said Indians.

The bill was read as follows:

The bill was read as follows:

Be't reacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled. That there shall be a superintendency of Indian Mairs for all the Indian country lying west of the Rocky mountains, in the Oregon territory; the superintendent of which shall be appointed by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate of the United States, who shall hold his office for the term of four years, unless sooner removed by the President, and shall annually receive a salary of four thousand dollars, and shall give bond, with two or more securities, in the penal sum of ten thousand dollars, for the sixthicl execution of the duties of his effice, and shall reside at such place in said territory as shall be designated by the President of the United States.

States.

See. 2. dead he if further enected. That the President of the United States shall be authorized to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, any number of Indian agents, not exceeding four in number, who shall hold their offices for four years, unless sooner removed by the President; and who shall give bond, with two or more securities in the penal sum of four thousand dollars, for the faithful exacution of the number and shall receive the annual compensation of the number dollars; and who shall reside at such places, and superintend such indian tribe or tribes in the Origon territory, as shall be designated by the President of the United States.

Sec. 5. dollar be if farther enacted. That a competent number of interpreters, with a salary not exceeding four hundred dellars such, may be employed under the same rules, regulations, and also have a man pow required by law for sunder offices, and also have a man power of the content of interpreters, which is employed, to be located at such places, and to perform such exceeding four hundred dellars such assumably, whall be employed, to be located at such places, and to perform such places, and also have a superintendent of Indian affairs may be intrusted with the exceeding four hundred dellars such places, and to perform such places, and also have been increasing that the dispension of the President of the settlements in Oregon, under the dissocion of the President of inconsistent with existing ready stipulations, and shall, within his superintendency, were is a general supervision and control over the offices and persons employed by the government in the Indian adaptment under such regulations and shall, within his superintendency, were is a general supervision and control over the offices.

And be it further enacted. That all the laws now in over, appertsining to the duties and powers of superintend, take, spents, interpreters, and other persons employed by the government in the ludish country east of the Rocky moustains, shall be applicable to the officers created by this act, as for as the same may be consistent with the existing treaty stipulations of this government.

"see 6. And be is further exacted. That in order the more thorough the confirmation of the second major and m

wee 6. Mad be it further ensured. That in order the more exceeding to enliver peace and preserve a good understanding with the various tribes of Indians west of the Rocky mountains, in addition to the powers herectore conferred in the Indian country, the superintendent in the

Daily Anion.

Oregon territory shall be vested with the authority to arrest or cause to be arrested, any citizen or other person who shall send, carry, or deliver any talk, speech, message, lester, or sign, to or from any indian tribe, attoin, chief, or individual, with an intent to preduce a contraveution or infraction of any treaty, or to disturb the peace and transported of any treaty, or to disturb the peace and transported of any treaty, or to disturb the peace and transported of the foliation of the contingent expenses of intercourse propriation for the contingent expenses of intercourse propriation for the contingent expenses of intercourse that the privilege of sum that the peace where the doubted. Whilst attached to the guilt of the accussed he shall cause such pountment to be inflicted as in his judgment may be deemed just and right, sold the accused he shall cause such the privilege of sum more morning and examining the witnesses both for and against ahm, and of comfronting his accusars on the trial: And prevised further. That the superintendent shall in every case reject further. That the superintendent shall in every case reject further, that the superintendent shall in every case reject further, that the superintendent shall in every case reject further, that the superintendent shall in every case reject further, that the superintendent shall in every case reject further, that the superintendent shall in every case reject further, that the superintendent shall in every case reject further, that the superintendent shall be deemed as under the complete of the amount of the superintendent shall be deemed as under the complete of the superintendent shall be deemed as under the complete of the superintendent shall be deemed as under the complete of the superintendent shall be deemed as under the complete of the superintendent shall be deemed as under the complete of the superintendent shall be deemed as under the complete of the superintendent shall be deemed as under the complete of the superintendent shall be deem

VOLUME 1.

a shall be made by the proper officers of government, thout additional expense.

In a state to the state of t

in amount not exceeding town and the sum of thirty sended.

Sec. 10. Jud be is further enacted. That the sum of thirty housand dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of carrying this act into effect.

The first section of the bill being under considera-

on, Mr. ANDREW JOHNSON moved to amend it

Mr. ANDREW JOHNSON move to amend it by reducing the salary of the susperintendent of Indian affairs from \$4.000 to \$2,000.

Mr. JACOB THOMPSON said he did not suppose that the committee or the House would attribute to him any disposition to favor extravagant salaries. He desired, however, to be liberal in this case, ries. He desired, however, to be liberal in this case, because he thought that the public service required liberality. The service to be performed was of a delicate nature, and would require an individual of such a character as that entire confidence could be placed in him. The Hudson Bay Company at this time had almost the entire control of the Oregon Indians. We wanted a man of firmness, intelligence, and character. Through the Indian agent had to be derived almost all the authentic information gives to the government; and we all knew how very important such information at this time would be. The bill ought not to authorize such a salary as would enable the President to tender the office to any upstart who might want a place; but such a salary as would command the services of a man fit and competent to be President of the United States. Such a man would not be willing to break up his business connexions, and leave his home for such a distant region for the salary proposed by the gentleman region for the salary proposed by the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. Johnson,] He (Mr. T.) beped the amendment would not prevail. Mr. A. JOHNSON said he had no desire to em-

beped the amendment would not prevail.

Mr. A. JOHNSON said he had no desire to embarrass the bill, but he had proposed the amendment under a conviction that a salary of \$4,000 was alto gether too much. The position itself was worth a fortune without one dollar of salary; and a salary of \$2,000 was ample to secure the services of any man competent to decharge the duties of the office.

Mr. THURMAN moved to amend the amendment by striking out \$2,000 and inserting \$3,000.

And (Mr. T. said) he would briefly assign his reasons for the motion. This Indian agent or superintendent was not an officer appointed under ordinary circumstances. He would, to a certain extent, have to see the laws executed in the Oregon territory. He ought to be a superior man, for a good deal would depend upon him. Much in relation to the peace of that country would depend upon him, in the total the country would depend upon him, therefore, to be a man of ability, weight of character, and so and judgment, and not a man of mere ordinary intellect. He thought, under these circumstances, that \$3,000 would be a proper remuneration.

Mr. A. JOHNSON here suggested that a motion should first be submitted to strike out the sum altogether, leaving a blank. It could then be filled up with such sum as the committee might think proper.

The motion took that form, and the question

The motion took that form, and the question bereon having been taken and decided in the affirm

tive, The amount was stricken out.

Mr. THURMAN then moved to fill the blan with the sum of \$3,000.

Which motion, by ayes 65 noce 54, was agreed

Mr. BRODHEAD now moved to \$4,000 instead of \$3,000. 4,000 instead or \$3,000.

The motion was not in order.

Mr. SEDDON indicated a motion to strike ou

ion was not in order at this time, but i ecurred to hereafter.

No further amendment having been offered to the

first section, it was passed over.

And the second section having been read, Mr. YANCEY moved to strike out the sum of

11,500 (the salary of the Indian agents) and insert 1,000.

Mr. JACOB THOMPSON believed (he said)

that \$1,500 was the salary received by all the Indian agents on this side of the meuntains. Surely the House would not give less to those on the other side. If any discrimination at all was to be made, he thought it should be in favor of those agents who were farthest removed from the settlements.

Mr. YANCEY was understood to say that he was willing to carry out the reduction, in any proper bill, to all the agents alike.

Mr. McKAY could not (he said) see the necessity.

Mr. McKAY could not the said see the necessity of this second section. The act of 1834 authorized the appointment of Indian agents to be located on this side of the mountains. But there was another provision which gave authority to the President to appoint any number of sub-agents to be located west of the Rocky mountains. He (Mr. McK.) submitted that under the power which the President clardly recreased to appoint as many authorized. already possessed, to appoint as many sub-agents is he pleased, there was no necessity for this secas he pleased, there was no necessity for this sec-tion. Their compensation was fixed at \$750. These sub-agents, with the assistance of the interpreters for whose appointment the bill provided, were just as competent to perform the service required as

Mr. PETTIT was here understood to inquire, whether the President had not, by virtue of the law to which the gentleman referred, already appointed an Indian agent west of the Rocky mountains?

which withors gentlemen referred, already appointed and indian egent west of the Rocky mountains."

Mr. McAY said, such was the fact.

There was another provision in the same act, which authorised the President to require any officer of the army to perform the duty of Indian agent west of the Rocky mountains. "

Mr. McAY said, such was the fact.

There was another provision in the same act, which authorised the President to require any officer of the army to perform the duty of Indian agent west on the course of recent debates, a who will be army to perform the duty of Indian agent west on the course of recent debates, a who will be a provision in the same act, and the second of the Indian agent west on the Indian agent west on the Indian agent west of the Indi

and if he had, they would still have to receive their compensation.

Mr. McKAY referred to page 360 of the report Elijah White, who (Mr. McKay remarked) had accepted the appointment of sub-agent, at the compensation of \$750.

Mr. THOMPSON said it was true; and it was also true that Mr. White had now a claim before Congress, and which had been favorably reported on in the Senate, for the sum of seven thousand dollars. After twelve hundred dollars had been paid to him, which was the utmost sum that it was in the power of the department to allow, he now said that he had spent seven thousand dollars beyond the \$1,200 paid to him.

Mr. McKAY. On what ground?

Mr. THOMPSON. On the ground of the great expense to which he was subjected. The journey took him at least four months, and he says it well nigh ruined him; and he now appeals to Congress for celief. I want to get rid of all claims of this description.

Mr. YANCEY said the fact that the Committee

of Mr. IASCET, which, by ayes 19, noes not counted, was agreed to.

The question then recurred on the motion of Mr. McKar; and having been decided in the affirmative, the second section was stricken out.

The third section being under consideration—
Mr. YANCEY moved to amend it by limiting the

Mr. YANCEY moved to amend it by limiting the number of interpreters to four.

Mr. JACOB THOMPSON said he was willing.
Mr. McKAY suggested that it would be better to leave the matter discretionary with the President.

Mr. YANCEY said he perceived that the number of blacksmiths was limited to four, and he thought the agents might be limited to the same number. Four, he presumed, would be sufficient; and if a less number was recorded.

number. Four, he presumed, would be sufficient and if a less number was required, the Presiden would make the appointments accordingly.

Mr. McKAY moved to reduce the pay of the in-

terpreters from \$400 to \$300.

After a few remarks from Messrs. JACOB THOMPSON and McKAY,

The question was taken on the amendment of

Mr. YANCEY, and it was rejected.

And the amendment of Mr. McKay was agreed To the fourth and fifth sections no amendments

were offered.

And the sixth section being under consideration,
Mr. THURMAN moved the following substi-

tute:

"That any person who shall send, carry, or deliver any talk, speech, message, letter, or sign, to or from any Indian tribe, nation, chief, or individual, with an intent to produce a contravention or infraction of any treaty to which the United States are as follows:

The motion of 1827, between the United States, which he was rectain the superintendent, hereby created, to cause all such offenders to be arrested and brought to trial with an intent of proper tribunals: Provided, that nothing in this act shall apply to any Indian whatsoever, or to any subject of Great Britain during the existence of the Stony mountains."

Mr. SEDDON moved to strike out the said section.

Mr. BAYLY rose and said that a message from the President of the United States, which he was sure the House would desire to hear read, was now waiting. He moved, therefore, that the committee rose and reported.

And the Speaker being in the chair, A message in writing was received from the President of the United States, by the hands of J. K. Walker, Eaq., his private secretary, and which the said as a follows:

To the House of Representatives: "That any person who shall send, carry, or de

a sunctent voucher for one author as manufacture expressed to have been expended."

Two distinct classes of expenditure are authorized by this law; the one of a public, and the other of a private and confidential character. The President in office at the time of the expenditure is made by the law the sole judge whether it shall be public or private. Such sums are to be "accounted for specially in all instances wherein the expenditure thereof may, in his judgment, be made public." All expenditures "accounted for specially" are settled at the treasury upon vouchers, and not on "Presidents' certificates," and, like all other public accounts, are subject to be called for by Congress, and are open to public examination. Had information as respects this class of expenditures been called for by the resolution of the House, it would have been gromptly communicated.

this class of expenditures been quited by the restock him at least four months, and he says it well night rained him, and he now appeals to Congress for relief. I want to get rid of all claims of this description.

Mr. YANCEY said the fact that the Committee on Indian Affairs have reported that this man, Mr. White, is entitled to \$7.000 extra, pretty conclusively proved that the House ought not to take, without looking into it, all that was recommended by that committee.

Mr. THOMPSON (in his seat.) It was the committee of the Senate.

Mr. YANCEY (resuming.) Yes. The committee of the Senate. To the committee of the Senate. To the committee of the Senate. To the committee of the Senate. The first lieutenants of the army received \$1,000 a year, and some of the first men in the country were in these offices. And surely we could get intelligent and competent men who would take this office for this sum. He insisted on his amendment.

Mr. ROBERTS said, it should be recollected that the Committee of the Country were in the competent men who would take this office for this sum. He insisted on his amendment.

Mr. ROBERTS said, it should be recollected that the country were in the competent men who would take this office for this sum. He insisted on his amendment.

Mr. ROBERTS said, it should be recollected that the country were in the competent men who would take this office for this sum. He insisted on his amendment.

the country were in these offices. And surely we could get intelligent and competent men who would take this office for this sum. He insisted on his Mr. ROBERTS said, it should be recollected that the sum would scarcely substant and the sum would scarcely substant and promotion, whereas these Indian agent to take \$1,000, when that sum would scarcely substant angent west of the Rocky mountains.

Mr. McCLELLAND, (very imperfectly heard from the position in which he addressed the chair.) was understood to refer to the Oregon jurisdiction to the treatment of the thought that many of its provisions it was dangerous and exceptionable. He considered this as a still more exceptionable bill, and he thought that after the statement that had been made by the gentleman from North Carolina, (Mr. McKar,) the section ought to be struck out, or that if anything of it was left, it should be the mare regulation of the compensation of agents and of said the constitution of the United States, if not with existing treaties when the constitution of the United States, if not with existing treaties the out, that the salary of \$4,000 for the superintendent of Indian affairs was too much. It seemed to him that an examination of the superintendent of Indian affairs was too much. It seemed to him that an examination of the superintendent of Indian affairs was too much. It seemed to him that an examination of the side would be some regulation as to the salaries. He thought that the salary of \$4,000 for the superintendent of Indian affairs was too much. It seemed to him that an examination of the sofficers, and to limit their number. Further than that he was only only the superintendent of Indian affairs was too much. It seemed to him that an examination of the sofficers, and to limit their number of interpreters to four. Mr. YANCEY moved to amount of the sofficers, and to limit their number. Further than that he was only only the had been decided in the affirmative, the succession was then taken on the amendment of the succession was then

was enacted, and might be producted of the most disastrous consequences. The expenditures of this confidential character, it is believed, were never be-fore sought to be made public; and I should greatly apprehend the consequences of establishing a prece-dent which would render such disclosures hereafter

I am fully aware of the strong and correct public

object of which would be defeated by publicity. Some governments have very large amounts at their disposal, and have made vastly greater expenditures than the small amounts which have from time to time been accounted for on presidents' certificates. In no nation is the application of such sums ever made public. In time of wax, or impending danger, the situation of the country may make it necessary to employ individuals for the purpose of obtaining information, or rendering other important services, who could never be prevailed upon to act if they entertained the least apprehension that their names or their agency would in any contingency be divulged. So it may often become necessary to incur an expenditure for an object highly useful to the country; for example, the conclusion of a treaty with a barbarian power, whose customs require on such occasions the use of presents, but this object might be altogether defeated by the intrigues of other powers, if our purposes were to be made known by the exhibition of the original papers and vouchers to the accounting officers of the treasury. It would be easy to specify other cases which may occur in the history of a great nation, in its intercourse with other nations, wherein it might become absolutely necessary to incur expenditures for objects which could never be accomplished, if it were suspected, in advance, that the items of expenditure, and the agencies employed, would be made public.

Actuated, undoubtedly, by considerations of this kind, Congress provided such a fund, coeval with the organization of the government, and subsequently enacted the law of 1810, as the permanent law of the land. While this law exists in full force, I feel bound, by a high sense of public policy and duty, to observe its provisions, and the uniform practice of my predecessors, under it. With great respect for the House of Representatives, and an anxious desire to conform to their wishes, I am constrained to come to this conclusion.

If Congress disapprove the policy of the law, they ma

may repeal its provisions.

In reply to that portion of the resolution of th
House which calls for "copies of whatever commu In reply to that portion of the resolution of the House which calls for "copies of whatever communications were made from the Secretary of State during the last session of the 27th Congress, particuarly February, 1843, to Mr. Cushing and Mr. Adams, members of the commit ee of this House on Foreign Affairs, of the wish of the President of the United States to institute a special mission to Great Britain," I have to state that no such communications, or copies of them, are found in the Department of State.

"Copies of all letters on the books of the Department of State, to any officer of the United States, or any person in New York, concerning Alexander McLeod," which are also called for by the resolution, are herewith communicated.

Washington, April 20th, 1846.

The reading of the accompanying correspondence was dispensed with.

Mr. JACOB THOMPSON moved that the mes

sage and accompanying documents be laid on the table, and printed; but, after a brief conversation, waived the motion at the request of Mr. C. J. INGERSOLL, who said if the House wished to hear the further reading he had no objection. But he presumed, from what he had heard of

the communication, that the reading would take some time. It related only to the McLeod case, and it will undoubtedly be much better understood when printed.

Mr. I. wished to say a very few words upon this

The President (said Mr. L) has answered the resolution I submitted, in a way that to me is unexpected, and therefore, and only therefore, it is that I deem it necessary to say anything. He should premise what he had to say by this statement. Some strong expressions have fallen from members here as to the part that was taken, or supposed to be taken, in this matter by me. A member from Massachusetts, [Mr. ARHUNI,] spoke of a conspiracy; and a member from Connectivent, [Mr. Drgon,] in the course of some impertinent observations, mentioned the other day—I do not recollect what, nor do I care—that other persons were combined with me in the movement. It is proper that I should say, therefore, that if there is a conspirator, I am the only one. That neither the President of the United States, nor the Secretary of State, who was absent, nor the acting Secretary of State at the time of the adoption of the resolutions which I submitted, (with whom I had some slight intercourse, which I will mention, knew anything at all of this matter. Among all the hard things that have been said of me, I am not aware that my truth has ever been called insquestion; but when the coarse contradiction to which I was subjected from another place, instead of being stung, as the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. Winntanor] has said, I was at least stimulated to an effort to vindicate my truth, and for that purpose I went to the Department of State with no idea of discovering what I did. I went for the purpose of ascertaining what correspondence there was upon the subject of the McLeod case, (which the President has thought proper to give to-day,) and what correspondence, or letter, was there to the gentleman from Massachusetts. say, therefore, that if there is a conspirator, I am the only one. That neither the President of the United States, nor the Secretary of State, who was absent, nor the acting Secretary of State at the time of the adoption of the resolutions which I submitted, (with whom I had some slight intercourse, which I will mention,) knew anything at all of this matter. Among all the hard things that have been said of me, I am not aware that my truth has every been called inaquestion; but when the coarse contradiction to which I was subjected from another place, instead of being stung, as the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. Winterpose I went to the Department of State with no idea of discovering what I did. I went for the purpose of ascertaining what I did. I went for the purpose of ascertaining what orrespondence there was upon the subject of the Mc. Leod case, (which the President has thought proper to give to-day,) and what correspondence, or letter, was there to the gentleman from Massachusetts, [Mr. Adams,] and to Mr. Cushing, (for they are named in the same entry on the journal,) respect hand in the same entry on the journal,) respect from the coarse of what I stated. I stated, if I stated, if I stated, if I am not missachusetts in looking for these papers, in particular for that letter, it could not be found; and in the same entry on the journal, proper to that it in looking for these papers, in particular for that letter, it could not be found; and in the same entry on the journal, prespect to the state of the state of New York to prevent the trial and procure the release of McLeod.

That northestory sould the transmitted was stated to the state in 1841? The main body of the proper to give to-day,) and what correspondence, or letter, and the state of the State of New York to prevent the trial and procure the release of McLeod. That is the substance of what I stated. I stated, if I am not mistaken, that in looking for these papers, in particular for that letter, it could not be found; and in

that time, for the proof of what I said, helder of hom denied it.

When this subject was mentioned in this House, the member from Connecticut, [Mr. Dixen,] end that it had not been denied by Mr. Weissren and the fact it was grossly he said that it had not been denied by Mr. WEBSTER.
Sir, (said I.,) that is not the fact. It was grossly
denied. The reported language is "this is another
falsehood;" these are the very words: "Mr. I.
snys, nobody disputes it. I dispute it, said Mr.
WEBSTER. If he refers to the venerable gentleman
from Massachusetts, [Mr. Adams,] for confirmation of his statement, I fancy he will not get that on of his statement, I fancy he will not get that information." I will thank the clerk to read the conformation." I will thank the clerk to read the entry of the journal, (which the House has authorized me to bring here,) and there they will find in the hand-writing of the venerable gentleman from Massachusetts, all I said upon that subject.

The clerk here read the following:

1843. SATURDAY, 25 February.
Present, Adams, Cushing, Everett, Granger, Caruther eriwether, Holmes. Meeting called by the chairman yesterday. He was una-ie to notify Mr. Stuart; Mr. Shepperd absent from indis-

le to notify sit. Start, and suppression of the legislatures of Missouri and of Illinois were read, with reference to which, and to a communication from the Secretary of State to Mr. Cushing and Mr. Adams, of the wish of the resident of the United States to institute a special mission of Great Britain,

of State to Mr. Cushing and A. Austra, or Special mission resident of the United States to Institute a special mission to Great Britain,

The chairman moved that he be instructed to move in the House, as an amendment to the civil and diplomatic appropriation bill now under consideration in Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, an appropriation of 18,000 dollars for outfit and salary of a special envey extraordinary to Great Britain, if the President should deem it necessary or expedient to institute such a mission.

On this motion, Adams, Cushing, Holmes, voted ay. Everett, Granger, Caruthers, Merriwether, voted may. But two members of the committee being absent, the final vote was postponed to the meeting on Tuesday next.

Resolutions of the legislature of Alabama in favor of the annexation of Texas to this Union, and sundry petitions against that measure referred to this committee being considered. Mr. Adams moved that the chairman be instructed to report thereon to the House the following resolutions.

1845. Texasox; 28 February.

Fresent, Adams, Cushing, Everett, Granger, Stuart, Shep-

nor upon the subject of a commercial treaty—
Mr. ADAMS interposed, and (Mr. I. yielding),
requested of the gentleman to produce the letter
which he had insisted was addressed to him (Mr.
A.) by the Secretary of State at that time, proposing

NUMBER 302.

Mr. INGERSOLL. I request of the gentleman from Massachusetts to produce the note which he unnounced in the entry as (1 think) a written communication. What are the words there (asked Mr. l. of the clerk.)

The extract from the above record of the journal and the communication of the clerk.

The extract from the above record of the journal was again read, in which "a communication from the Secretary of State to Mr. Cushing and Mr. Adams." &c., is apoken of.

Mr. ADAMS (Mr. L. again yielding) said the fact that there was an application from the Secretary of State for an appropriation, for a special minister to Great Britain, was undoubtedly true; and that the appropriation requested from the Secretary of State at the direction of the President was considered in the committee and rejected by the committee, was also true.

g appropriation requested from the Secretary of State at the direction of the President was considered in the committee and rejected by the committee, was also true.

That any written communication to him from the Secretary of State took place, he had no recollection of, and he did not believe; and if there had been such a communication, it would have resued in the committee room, together with these cutries that were made in my own shand.

With respect to the fact whether this communication was made by the Secretary of State in writing or verbally, he did not know that there was any importance connected with the fact. Had he been asked when the geniteman offered his receivings to say whether such a transaction took place, he should have answered it instantly. What the gentleman proposed to make of it he did not know. It was possible, though, that there might have been a communication from the Secretary of State to Mr. Cushing. He did not undertake to say as to that with perfect positiveness.

But so far as related to any secrecy in this transaction, Mr. A. never considered there was any, nor that there was any treasen in it, nor anything more than the ordinary sort of communication from the executive department to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. INGERSOLL (resuming) said he knew nothing at all of this matter except what was written in the handwriting of the gentleman from Massachusetts upon the minutes of what might be called the journal of the Committee on Foreign Affairs at the time. He did not know that it was a secret at the time. He did not know that it was a secret at the time. He did not know that it was a secret at the time. He did not know that it was a secret at the time. He did not know that it was a secret at the time. He did not know that it was a secret at the time. He did not know that it was a secret at the time. He did not know that it was a secret at the time. He did not know that it was a secret at the time. He did not know that it was a secret at the time. He did not know that there nission to a foreign country without making the communication in writing. And what brought him to the department to find that letter. He did not be found. And he confessed it excited some surprise The House would recollect that he said, when h

tion. But he presumed, from what he had heard of the communication, that the reading would take some time. It related only to the McLeod case, and it will undoubtedly be much better understood when printed.

Mr. I wished to say a very few words upon this question of printing, which opened the debate at this time, but it was a duty he ewed the House, and perhaps himself, to say a few words on this occasion.

The President (said Mr. L.) has answered the resolution I submitted, in a way that to me is unexpected, and therefore, and only therefore, it is that I deem it necessary to say anything. He should premise what he had to say by this statement. Some strong expressions have fallen from members here as to the part that was taken, or supposed to be taken, in this matter by me. A member from Massachusetts, [Mr. ASHNUN,] spoke of a conspiracy; and a member from Connecticut, [Ms. Dixon,] in the course of some impertinent observations, mentioned the other day—I do not recollect what, nor it has movement. It is proper that I should say, therefore, that if there is a conspirator, I am message and accompanying documents communicated to Congress at the commencement of the presents were combined with me in the movement. It is proper that I should say, therefore, that if there is a conspirator, I am the course of the course, or the presents were combined with me in the movement. It is proper that I should say, therefore, that if there is a conspirator, I am the course of the course of the course of the course of the presents were combined with me in the movement. It is proper that I should say, therefore, that if there is a conspirator, I am the course of the course

ing a special mission to England. I say no more than this: that in looking for these papers, in particular for that letter, it could not be found; and in it, to my great amazement, I came upon other papers, which led me the next day in this House, without taking counsel of any human being, to move the resolutions, and state what I did state. I took no counsel but of my own pillow that night, and the next day came into this House without the knowledge of a human being, and moved the resolutions, in which it would seem from the President's answer there were words—to wit: "President's certificates"—which I was not sufficiently acquainted with the subject to have omitted—which were objectionable. I will speak of that before I sit down. But first, as to what the President seem communicated. I stated that a special mission had been called for for the purpose of settling the Oregon question, and I appealed to the gentleman from Massachusetts, for the purpose of settling the Oregon question; and I appealed to the gentleman from Massachusetts, for the purpose of settling the Oregon question; and I appealed to the gentleman from Massachusetts, for the purpose of settling the Oregon question; and I appealed to the gentleman from Massachusetts, for the purpose of settling the Oregon question; and I appealed to the gentleman from Massachusetts, for the purpose of settling the Oregon question; and I appealed to the gentleman from Massachusetts, for the purpose of settling the Oregon question; and I appealed to the gentleman from Massachusetts, for the purpose of settling the Oregon question; and I appealed to the gentleman from Massachusetts, for the purpose of settling the Oregon question; and I appealed to the gentleman from Massachusetts, for the purpose of settling the Oregon question; and I appealed to the gentleman from Massachusetts, for the purpose of settling the Oregon question; and I appealed to the gentleman from Massachusetts, the first of the following:

All recollect when a British armed force from Canada whil

spectable and polamines with a most of the Ark read the following:

"All recollect when a British armed force from Canada invaded our shores, cut out and burnt a steamboat, and murdered a citizen. I recollect it, and I recollect also the season which ran through the community is which live. I recollect well, as that feeling progressed through the State that it seemed with us to embrace the entire West I recollect that very well. Time passed along, and the person charged with that murder, in violation of our laws, was arrested and held to trial. Do you recollect another thing, and how far public feeling sustained the then governor in the course he pursued! Trecollect that all the influence of all the public functionaries at Washington came down here at the capital to suppress that trial. All the power of the general government was brought to bear on the government of this State to prevent that trial. They were alarmed at the idea of incurring the danger of a war wift. Great Britain. Do you recollect—does the gentleman from Putam, and does the gentleman from St. Lawrence recollect the high ground the Executive took on that occasion."

Well, sir, I beg leave now to say a single ward

Well, sir, I beg leave now to say a single word further. I think, with great respect and deference to Mr. Carriennen, that there must be some little error in his recollection of this case. He says that he went on that mission; he says that he received error in his recollection of this case. He says that he went on that mission; he says that he received instructions from the President, General Harrison; that he talked with General Harrison on the subject; that General Harrison sanctioned what was done. I am aware that General Harrison was responsible for what was done—that General Harrison knew perfectly well what was done; but what I stated was, that Mr. Wessyrk was, in respect of that matter, de facto President of the United States.

Mr. Caittenden was imagurated on the 4th March, ine days only before, and General Harrison in his inaugural address delivered on the 4th March, asys:

"It is my intention to use every means in my power to preserve the friendly intercourse which now so happily exists with every foreign mation, and that, although, of course, not well informed as to the state of pending negotiations with any of them." &c.

General Harrison muet, and I have no hesitation

alone, that I went to the Department of State, not asking anything, not dreaming of anything there to do what has been called changing the issue.

alone, that I went to the Department of State, not asking anything, not dreaming of anything there to do what has been called changing the issue.

With respect to the charges I made on the 9th of this month, I repeat them. I say upon my responsibility as a member of this body, and as an individual, that the charges I then made are not only facts, that they are not only the truth, but they are directly, easily susceptible of proof from the Department of State.

A gentleman inquired what were those charges?

Mr. INGERSOLL. The charges of Mr. Westra's having taken into his possession the contingent service fund, which was never done either before or since; secondly, his having applied a portion of that fund to corrupt the party press; and thirdly, of his having left office indebted to that fund, and of his not being able to settle that debt until nearly two years after he went out, and just before the present administration came into power. All this is true. And I say further, as I said before, that I know little, very little of what more I presume exists and can be proved; because, ever since I made that statement, I have conceived both the propriety and policy of my situation to be a passive silence, and to leave the matter to take its own course.

And now I say, is conclusion, that I shall not make any further movement on this subject; that it does not appear to me, or the friend's I have consulted, that I am the proper person to do it. After all that has passed, it is for others to say whether any further movement shall be made, and what it shall be. All I have to say is simply to repeat the charges that I have made, with the asseveration that they can be proved; and I think it is obvious, from the President's response, that the proofs of these charges are attainable; and that had I omitted in my resolutions the words "the President's certificates," the proofs would have been here before now. It is not for me to call for them. I have done a very disagreeable duty—a duty, I assure the House, it was painful full

tions the words "the President's certificates," the proofs would have been here before now. It is not for me to call for them. I have done a very disagreeable duty—a duty, I assure the House, it was painful for me to perform; and all I need add is, that the charges are true, and may be easily proved.

Mr. T. B. KING was understood to remark that any member of the body who, for any purpose whatever, rose in this House to assail, in any form, the reputation of any man, but especially of any citizen of the United States who had held the highest position, except two, in the gift of the people or the government of the United States, was bound to substantiate his sharges, or clee they would recoil with redoubled force upon himself. When the phonorable gentleman from Pennsylvania made these charges, which were now lying before him, on the 9th of February last, he confessed he was very greatly surprised, for it had never entered into his mind—he had never heard, among all the slanders of the day, that the government of the United States had at any time, or in any manner, attempted to interfere with the progress of justice or the execution of the laws of the States of New York.

Mr. BURT rose to a point of order, and objected to the gentleman's proceeding on the ground of irrelevancy; but after some conversation waived his objection, and

Mr. KING proceeded. He was going on to say that in all the charges heretofore made he had never, before the charges of the gentleman from Pennsylvania of the 9th of February last, heard it inhimated that there was any attempt on the part of the administration of the general government to interfere with the execution of the laws, or the course of justice in the State of New York, or that the Secretary of State at, that time had acted any part unbecoming him as an officer of the government, or done what was not strictly his duty to do.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania though the had substantiated the charges made by him on the 9th of February last. With all due respect, he was forced to

The gentleman had declared in his remarks, which were personal to Mr. WEBSTER, that Mr. WEBSTER, that Mr. WEBSTER, wrote a letter marked "private," and he believed the gentleman said he wrote as many as three letters in one day.

Mr. INGERSOLL here made a remark which

as entirely lost to the reporter.
Mr. KING (continuing.) They were all pub-letters except one, and that— Mr. G. S. HOUSTON rose to a point of order,

hich, after considerable co

which, after considerable conversation, he placed in the following form:

That the letter referred to by Mr. King, nor a copy of that letter, not being a part of the message of the President, and therefore not before the House, it was not in order to discuss it.

The SPEAKER, referring to the difficulty of drawing the precise limit to which the debate should be confined, and to the catter to which the gentleman from Pennsylvania had been indulged, decided that the fact being referred to in the message that no such letter was to be found in the Department of State, it formed a part of the subject-matter of the communication of the President, and might be discussed. inseed.

Mr. HOUSTON appealed from the decis

Mr. WINTHROP required that the point of or-

der should be reduced to writing.

After some conversation this was dene, but it subsequently appearing that the point of order had been based on a misapprehension of the state of facts, no further proceedings took place in relation in it.

facts, no further proceedings took place in relation to it.

Mr. KING (resuming) said he would like to ask the honorable gentleman from Pennsylvania, and every member of this House, in what particular the gentleman had substantiated the charges made by him on the 9th Pebruary, against the Secretary of State in 1841? The main body of the charge was that the government of the United States had interfered with the administration of justice in New York. Where was the evidence to sustain this Not the slightest particle had been brought forward. ward.
The private letter, addressed by Mr. WEBSTER to

personal or political friend of the Secretary of State.
It appears that the sum of \$4,500 was expended while Mr. W. was Secretary of State, out of the fund for foreign intercourse, in the years 1841 and 1842.

fund for foreign intercourse, in the years 1841 and 1842.

Very proper objects of this expenditure may be easily imagined or suggested in those years.

In the year 1841 the whole northern frontier was in a continual state of agitation, created by the Patriot Society or Hunters' Lodges, as they were called. These were secret-political clubs, organized and existing at various points, from Ogdensburgh up to Lake Huron. Their object was to make incursions and commit outrages in Canada, and by this means to provoke retaliation and to carry on a border war. They are known to have gone the length even of arranging for an army, to be called the army for the deliverance of Canada.

It will be remembered that General Scott was sent to the frontier, and General Brady commanded at Detroit. It was necessary to find out the purposes of these secret clubs. They were found out. Their constitution, organization, and commissions, all were found out, and the military authorities of the United States were kept advised of their movements and purposes.

All this sources of disorder and mischief was detected.

All this source of disorder and mischief was dried up and out off by the extradition article of the trea-ty of Washington.

A second source of expenditure to some small amount was found, no doubt, in the negotiation or

amount was found, no acoust, in the negotiation or the negotiations in respect to several subjects in 1842. Confidential agents, it is understood and supposed, were sent to confer with the governor of Maise, and other things were done, and necessarily done, which the public interest did not allow to be made known to other governments. Publicity here would be a focure a publicity serve where

would be, of course, publicity everywhere.

In the third place, it came to my knowledge, and therefore I can now allude to it, without being particular, that, in 1841 and 1842, what was considered. sidered. Mr. Adams moved that the chairman be instructed to report therein to the House the following resolutions.

1843. Tersoav, 28 February.

Fresent, Adams, Cushing, Everett Granger, Stuart, Shepperd, Meriwether, Holmes, Cauthers—The question of moving an appropriation for an outfliand salary for a special mission to Great Britain was decided in the negative.

Ay—Adams, Holmes, Cushing, Everett Granger, Stuart, Caruthers, Merivether.

Adjourned to Thursday, 28 March, at 9 a. m.

The House will perceive therefore, Mr. Speaker, feaid Mr. L.) that in the hand-writing of the geniles man from Massachusetts what I said upon that mabined from Massachusetts what I said upon that mabined from Massachusetts what I said upon that mabined for the propose of vindicating, it was for that purpose, and that With respect (if I may be allowed here to allude

My threspect (if I may be allowed here to allude

The House will perceive therefore, Mr. Speaker, feath Mr. L.) that in the hand-writing of the geniles may assertions, it was for that purpose, and that With respect (if I may be allowed here to allude)

My threspect (if I may be allowed here to allude)

The House will perceive therefore and performed anto the state of pending megotiations with any one hesitations in stating it—I take it for granted, that he must have any interfect a very important service was performed and suggestions of his stating it—I take it for granted, that he must have a very large of the advice and suggestions of his secretary of State. I cannot help thinking, there is nothing the residual point of the state of the state of the state of the honorable member of Congress from that done by the Secretary of State. And there is nothing in that respect in which I can be fairly control continuity, upon no confidentially, as a member of Congress from that done the fairly control con

" LIBERTY, THE UNION, AND THE CONSTITUTION." WASHINGTON CITY, TUESDAY NIGHT, APRIL 21, 1846.

made and settled under presidential certificates, in pursuance of these laws.

If the President may answer the present call, he must answer similar calls for every such expenditure of a confidential character, made under every administration, in war and in peace, from the organization of the government to the present period. To break the seal of confidence imposed by the law, and heretofore uniformly preserved, would be subversive of the very purpose for which the law was enacted, and might be productive of the most

I am fully aware of the strong and correct public feeling which exists throughout the country against secrecy of any kind in the administration of the government, and especially in reference to public expenditures; yet our foreign negotiations are wisely and properly confined to the knowledge of the Executive during their pendency. Our laws require the accounts of every particular expenditure to be rendered and publicly settled at the Treasury Department. The single exception which exists is, not that the amount embraced under Presidents' certificates shall be withheld from the public, but merely that the items of which these are composed shall